

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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October 15, 2013

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Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

**Chief Executive Officer** 

#### SACRAMENTO UPDATE

### **Executive Summary**

On Sunday, October 13, 2013, Governor Brown completed action on all of the bills remaining on his desk for signature or veto, which were approved by the Legislature prior to adjournment of the first year of the 2013-14 Legislative Session. The Legislature is scheduled to reconvene for the second year of the Legislative Session on January 6, 2013.

This memorandum contains reports on the following:

- Status of County-Advocacy Legislation
  - County-supported AB 274 (Bonilla) related to streamlining records for subsidized child care providers, was signed by the Governor on October 11, 2013.
  - County-opposed AB 537 (Bonta) related to collective bargaining, was signed by the Governor on October 13, 2013.
  - County-opposed AB 729 (Hernández) related to evidentiary privileges for union agents and represented employees, was vetoed by the Governor on October 11, 2013.
  - County-opposed AB 1373 (Pérez) related to worker's compensation death benefits, was vetoed by the Governor on October 13, 2013.

- County-supported SB 57 (Lieu) related to removal of a GPS monitor, was signed by the Governor on October 12, 2013.
- Legislation of County Interest. A report on five measures of significant interest
  to the County related to: 1) former development agencies; 2) infrastructure
  financing districts; 3) Medi-Cal interpreters; 4) local public officers' claims and
  liabilities; and 5) campaign activities of nonprofit organizations.
- The status of all County-sponsored and County-advocacy legislation is available at: <a href="http://ceo.lacounty.gov/IGR/PDF/bill">http://ceo.lacounty.gov/IGR/PDF/bill</a> list/2013/current.pdf

## Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-supported AB 274 (Bonilla), which would: 1) allow subsidized child care providers to submit attendance records on a monthly basis; 2) allow attendance records to be maintained in original format or electronically; and 3) require the State to process payments to providers through direct deposit, was signed by the Governor on October 11, 2013, and it is Chapter 733, Statutes of 2013. This measure becomes effective July 1, 2014.

County-opposed AB 537 (Bonta), which would amend labor negotiation statutes to provide that if a tentative agreement is reached by public agency and employee organization representatives, the governing body has 30 days from the date the agreement is first considered at a public meeting to accept or reject the agreement, was signed by the Governor on October 13, 2013, and it is Chapter 785, Statutes of 2013. This measure becomes effective January 1, 2014.

County-opposed AB 729 (Hernández), which would establish new evidentiary privileges to prohibit the disclosure of confidential communication between union agents and represented employees, was vetoed by the Governor on October 11, 2013.

In his veto message, the Governor noted that this bill would compromise the ability of employers to conduct investigations into workplace safety, harassment and other allegations.

County-opposed AB 1373 (Pérez), which would extend the statute of limitations on filing a death benefits claim for a firefighter or peace officer who dies of specified presumptive work-related illness from 240 weeks to 480 weeks from the date of injury, was vetoed by the Governor on October 13, 2013.

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In his veto message, the Governor indicated that this measure is identical to the one he vetoed last year, in which he outlined that statistical information still needed to properly evaluate the implications of this legislation. The Governor's reference is to the pending study by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, which is conducting one of the largest studies of firefighters and risks of death from job-related diseases. The study is expected to be completed in 2014.

County-supported SB 57 (Lieu), which would prohibit a person who is required to register as a sex offender and who is subject to parole supervision from removing an electronic, Global Positioning System (GPS), or other monitoring device affixed as a condition of parole, and which would require, upon a first violation, the parole authority to revoke the person's parole and impose a mandatory, 180-day period of incarceration, was signed by the Governor on October 12, 2013, and it is Chapter 776, Statutes of 2013. This measure becomes effective January 1, 2014.

## Status of Legislation of County Interest

AB 564 (Mullin), which would prohibit: 1) the Department of Finance (DOF) from taking any future action to modify or reverse a successor agency's oversight board decision regarding an enforceable obligation after the effective date of the oversight board's approval; and 2) DOF from taking any future action to modify a transfer, the liquidation of properties of a former redevelopment agency, or the use of proceeds from disposition by the successor agency if that action is consistent with an approved long-range asset management plan, was vetoed by the Governor on October 13, 2014.

In his veto message, the Governor indicated that the bill would have made policy changes that are contrary to the letter and intent of the redevelopment dissolution law that would severely limit the State's ability to ensure that successor agencies fulfill their obligation to wind down redevelopment affairs in an expeditious manner.

AB 662 (Atkins), which would: 1) allow an infrastructure financing district to include portions of former redevelopment project areas; 2) authorize a successor agency that has received a finding of completion to enter into contracts, amend existing contracts or agreements, or administer projects in connection with enforceable obligations if no new tax revenues are committed and the activity will not adversely impact the flow of property tax revenues or payments; 3) require a successor agency to provide notice to the oversight board at least 10 days prior to entering into a contract or agreement for the use or disposition of properties, as specified; 4) allow the oversight board to notify the successor agency during that 10-day period if it intends to conduct a public hearing to determine whether the contract or agreement is consistent with the successor agencies long-range asset management plan; and 5) create a housing entity administration cost allowance to be allocated to a local housing authority that has

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assumed the housing duties of a former redevelopment agency, was vetoed by the Governor on October 13, 2013.

In his veto message, the Governor noted the language to authorize new or amended contracts to existing enforceable obligations could result in unintended costs to the General Fund. The Governor also directed his administration to work with the author in the coming year to make changes to the bill's language in a manner that would avoid these costs.

AB 1263 (Pérez), which would require the California Department of Health Care Services to establish the Medi-Cal Patient-Centered Communication Program (CommuniCal) to provide reimbursement for medical interpretation services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are limited English speaking proficient and grant collective bargaining rights to CommuniCal interpreters, was vetoed by the Governor on October 13, 2013.

In his veto message, the Governor noted that the State has embarked on an unprecedented expansion to add more than a million people to the Medi-Cal Program. He explained that given the challenges and many unknowns the State faces in this endeavor, it would be unwise to introduce another complex element to this effort.

SB 39 (De León), which would require the forfeiture of a contractual, common law, constitutional, or statutory claim against a local public agency employer to retirement benefits by a local public officer convicted of a felony, was signed by the Governor on October 12, 2013, and it is Chapter 775, Statutes of 2013. SB 39 is an urgency measure and becomes effective immediately.

SB 594 (Hill), which would redefine the types of public resources a non-profit organization is prohibited from using for campaign activities to include cash, property, equipment, travel, local government compensated work time, funds generated from conduit bond financing activities, among other assets, and would except funds received in exchange for consideration for goods or services, was signed by the Governor on October 12, 2013, and it is Chapter 773, Statutes of 2013. This measure becomes effective January 1, 2014.

We will continue to keep you advised.

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c: All Department Heads Legislative Strategist